



H-A 0300 6/A 7-19-01
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

Garth A. Hystad

Serial No.: 09/776,530

Filed: February 3, 2001

Atty. File No.: 45303-00070

For: "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
DECK AND RAIL CONSTRUCTION
USING WOOD COMPOSITES"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

) Group Art Unit: 2856

) Examiner: Noland, T.

) PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
) AND RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO
) FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION
) PAPERS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE OR FEE IS
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE
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20231 ON 3/14/01

HOLME ROBERTS & OWEN LLP

BY: Rebecca L. Wilson

What follows is the Applicant's Preliminary Amendment of the Specification and Drawings.

In accordance with Rule 1.121, Section I is a "marked up version" of specified paragraphs in the Description of the Invention, with amendments noted. Section II is a "cleaned up" version of the same paragraphs, attached on separate pages. Section III includes a marked up version of the drawings. Section IV includes Comments explaining the amendments.

I. MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

All amendments shown below are made to paragraphs in the section of the Specification entitled "Description of the Invention."

1. Please amend the 4th paragraph of this section, at pages 6-7 of the Specification, as follows: